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Title : Need to open a Regional Authentication Centre at Chennai for the benefit of students going abroad for higher education from Tamil Nadu.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (PALANI): Sir, throughout the country, the youths who are willing to go abroad either for higher education or for jobs have to get authentication from the Authentication Centre functioning at New Delhi run by the Ministry of Human Resources Development. A large number of students are coming from Tamil Nadu, waiting for a few days and spending huge sums of money for getting authentication. In Kerala, already three Centres have been opened. One is at Trivandram and the other two are at Ernakulam and Kozhikode and they are run by NORKA. In Andhra Pradesh, the Centre is functioning from Hyderabad. In Maharashtra, the Centre is located at Mumbai and in Karnataka, the Centre is situated at Bangalore. From Tamil Nadu, the largest number of youths are going abroad. In Delhi Centre, the highest number of youths who are getting authentication are only from Tamil Nadu. Due to accommodation and language problems, the students are suffering a lot.

In this regard, the Ministry of Human Resources Development had communicated with the Government of Tamil Nadu to identify the authorities there to authorize it as a Regional Authentication Centre. But the Government of Tamil Nadu has not taken any steps and intentionally delaying the matter. It creates unnecessary hardship to thousands of students.

I shall, therefore, request the hon. Minister to please take suitable necessary action in this regard and direct the Home Department of the Government of Tamil Nadu to act as Regional Authentication Centre for the youths of Tamil Nadu.